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Letter dated 25 June 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of remarks made by a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on 24 June 2016 with regard to a press statement issued by the Security Council denouncing DPRK's successful test fire of a surface-to-surface intermediate strategic ballistic rocket (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council at your earliest convenience.

(*Signed*) Ja Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 25 June 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Remarks made by a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on 24 June 2016 with regard to a press statement issued by the Security Council denouncing DPRK's successful test fire of surface-to-surface intermediate strategic ballistic rocket

Pyongyang, 24 June (KCNA) — A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK Friday gave the following answer to a question put by KCNA as regards the fact that the United Nations Security Council pulled up the DPRK over its test fire of an intermediate strategic ballistic rocket:

The news of Juche Korea's successful test fire of the surface-to-surface medium long-range strategic ballistic rocket Hwasong-10 shook the world, demonstrating its powerful defence capability. But some hostile forces are attempting to pull up the DPRK over its step towards bolstering its self-reliant defence capability.

On 23 June, a press statement was made at the Security Council to "denounce" the test fire, calling for the implementation of the "resolution on sanctions".

We totally reject this Security Council press statement, which is devoid of impartiality and a product of a double standard, as an invention of the U.S. chiefly responsible for the escalated tension on the Korean Peninsula.

The successful test fire of strategic ballistic rocket Hwasong-10, a normal action pursuant to the DPRK's line of simultaneously pushing forward the economic construction and the building of nuclear force, was a self-defensive step to reliably defend the security of the country and its people from the U.S. and other hostile forces' constant threat.

However, the Security Council adopted what is called a press statement and cried out for the implementation of the "resolution on sanctions" against the DPRK. This is an unreasonable deed of turning black into white.

The "resolution on sanctions" against the DPRK is a product of high-handedness wantonly violating the sovereignty of an independent State.

The United Nations Secretariat, too, has not brought up the legal basis for justifying it.

The U.S. is the very one that threatens the DPRK by force and aggravates the situation intentionally, steadily hurling into south Korea such strategic means as nuclear submarines and strategic bombers.

It is a legitimate self-defensive step for the DPRK to secure the corresponding powerful attack means now that the U.S. is constantly posing threats to the sovereignty and vital rights of the DPRK.

As already declared by the DPRK, détente and stability on the Korean Peninsula cannot be realized by anyone's unilateral efforts.

The U.S. is well advised to recall how the DPRK emerged a nuclear-weapon State and has steadily bolstered war deterrence, before criticizing the latter's efforts to increase military strength, and reflect on its extremely hostile policy towards the DPRK.

Its sustained strategic mistake and rash deed are now driving the situation on the Korean Peninsula to an uncontrollable extreme phase.

The DPRK will take in succession the self-defensive countermeasures of its style as long as the U.S. continues resorting to nuclear threat, sanctions and pressure on it.